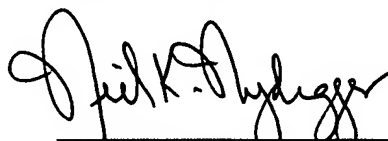


REMARKS

The application is now in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (619) 688-1300 for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

DATED this 9th day of June, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



NEIL K. NYDEGGER
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 9th day of June, 2004.



DEBRA D. BURNS
Legal Document Assistant

prelimamnd:ddb
Docket: 10745.156